(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) For commercial and operational reasons, there is no proposal to expand air service in Madhya Pradesh at present.

Development of Tourism in the country

2484. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have been emphasising on steps to facilitate promotion of tourism in the country where cooperation of our domestic airlines, besides Air India, would be essential ;

(b) if so, the extent to which the Airlines have expanded/revised Services and facilities to cater to the increased needs, particularly of the foreign tourists, in the events of its growth in the near future; and

(c) what steps are being envisaged to provide air services to remote areas in the north-eastern region where potential of tourism is considrably high ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c) Government are aware of the linkage between air services and tourism. During the current year Air India have increased the number of services on India-Singapore and India-Japan routes and have also introduced new services on India-Canada route. Indian Airlines have also introduced new services on several sectors including stations in north—eastern region.

Development of tourist places at Meerut in U.P.

2485. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government as aware that Sardhana town and Hastinapur town in Meerut District of Uttar Pradesh have a world famous church and ancient jain temples, respectively, attracting lakhs of pilgrims and tourist of respective faith ;

(b) whether Government have received over the years requests and representations from eminent persons and organisations to develop these two places a big tourist centres ; and

(c) if so, what steps Government proposes to take or have taken for their development ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The development of tourist centres is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. However, the Central Department of Tourism provides financial assistance to the State Governments on the basis of specific proposals received from them and dependent upon their merits, inter-se priorities and the availability of funds.

No proposal has been received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for Central assistance to develop tourist facilities at Sardhana and Hastinapur towns in Meerut District.

Air service from Bombay to Khajuraho

2486. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI :
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that proposal for starting air service from Bombay to Khajuraho was submitted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to the Central Government; and

(b) if so, by when the air service in this route is likely to be operated ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal at present for operation of air services from Bombay to Khajuraho.

Chartering of Jumbo Jets for VIPs

2487. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) what is the existing arrangement with air India for chartering of Jumbo jets for VIP movement, especially Boeing 747 planes ;

(b) what is the current charter rate of Boeing 747 for VIP flights by Air India ;

(c) for how many days were such Jumbo jets chartered in 1991 with details of the flights and the VIPs and the rates levied by Air India ;

(d) whether regular Air India flights are disrupted by such chartering of planes by VIPs; and

(e) whether the charter rate which Air India levies for VIP movement is purely commercial ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) As and when the need arises, Boeing 747 aircraft are chartered from Air India. There is no fixed charter rate. The rates are worked out on each occasion.

(c) to (e) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Allotment of book shop at Indira Gandhi International Airport

2488. SHRI R.T. GOPALAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION & TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) what is the amount of the bid accepted for the book shop allotted at the Indira Gandhi International Airport;

(b) what procedure is being followed for award of such shops and what is the period of the contract ; and

(c) what are the names of the parties who were awarded the book shop at this airport since its commissioning and the amount recovered from them ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) There are no shops allotted exclusively for sale of books. Among other items books are offered for sale at the Traveller Requisite Stalls in he terminal building. The following Traveller Requisite Stalls are operational at various Terminals of IGI airport at the licence fee indicated against each :—

(i) *Terminal*-II (*International*)

Rs. 21,311/- p.m. (At the time of award i.e. in May, 86).

(ii) *Terminal*—I (*Domestic*)

1—A Rs. 35,200/- p.m. (At the time of award i.e. in February, 1986)

1—B Rs. 25,752.33 p.m. (At the time of award i.e. June, 1987)

This licence fee is subject to 10% escalation compounded annually.

(b) Traveller Requisite Stalls are allotted on the basis of open tenders for a period of 5 years, extendable as and when necessary.

(c) Traveller Requisite Stalls at all the three locations at IGI Airport have been allotted to M/s. International Traveller Requisite Stalls. The amount realised so far under the current contract is Rs. 52,53,260/-.

Projects submitted by Government of Orissa for tourism

2489. SHRI JAGADISH JANI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) The number of projects submitted by the Government of Orissa, before his Ministry for the promotion of tourism;

(b) the financial assistance sought by the Government of Orissa for implementing those projects ;

(c) whether this Ministry has approved these projects and granted Central assistance ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) 17 project proposals have been received from the State Government of Orissa during 1991-92.

(b) In respect of these projects financial assistance for Rs. 231.34 lakhs has been sought.

(c) Five projects have been sanctioned for an amount of Rs. 53.84 lakh. The remaining proposals are under consideration.

(d) During the last 3 years and for the current financial year, the following amounts have been sanctioned as Central assistance to the Government of Orissa:

1988-89— Rs. 09.09 lakhs

1989-90— Nil.

1990-91— Rs. 121.61 lakhs

1991-92— Rs. 53.84 lakhs.